

Bud, Mary, Paul, Gary, Dick, Howard

6/26/70

HW

Status Skolnickery

I have obtained a copy of the docket in Skolnick's case, his attempted actions against CBS being part of his pretended suit vs Archives. Several things may of slight interest.

Nothing has happened since 6/25, when his motions for a writ of mandamus and/or prohibition were denied. If I understand this, and I ~~may~~ not, this would seem to indicate that his publicity on the granting of an indefinite stay on the grounds of the alleged bias of all the judges, was false, it not having appeared until after this denial.

If the 60 days for response do include Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, the government did let more than 60 days lapse before responding, which seems strange for so obviously frivolous a suit. He filed 4/6/70. The did not respond until 6/12, the day after he filed a motion for default judgement. That was continued until 6/15, with no disposition noted in docket. The entry for that day continues this until 6/22 and also notes his motion for the order to recuse. The 6/22 entries say nothing about a default judgement. They are two: "Filed Notice Motion and Affidavit including Proof of Service and Exhibit 'A'", and the one noted above, disposed of 6/25 with denial.

Most of the action involves CBS. From the docket it would seem that the subpoenaing of LBJ was no more than a stunt. Nothing happened and there is no protest.

Despite Skolnick's having told some otherwise, the government did file an affidavit from Rhoads and other papers I think we should have. This is the language of the entry for 6/12: "Filed Motion of Defendant to dismiss, Affidavit of James B. Rhoads and Attachments". We can, of course, get these from the Archives, but I cannot now justify this expense. I take for granted that Skolnick's pretense these were not filed is because he is less than happy with them. Without seeing them I can only guess, but that guess would include the very obvious factual error in his allegations.

Should any of you have any of the papers in this action subsequent to the complaint and other than his Petition for Writs of Mandamus and/or Prohibition (which he has supplied, without indicting it was denied, after it was denied), I'd appreciate copies.